RAB Minutes

NAS NORTH ISLAND
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

INTRODUCTION
The sixty-third Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting for Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island/Naval Amphibious Base (NAB) Coronado was held on Thursday, February 17, 2000, at the Coronado Public Library from 6:30 p.m. to 7:25 p.m. Mr. Collins called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m., and welcomed RAB members and the public.

RAB ATTENDANCE
Daniel Cordero, Bill Collins, John Locke, Richard Mach, Art Van Rooy

PUBLIC/NAVY ATTENDANCE
Mark Bonsavage, Mark Johnson, Bob Logan, Leslie Redford, Robert Steeves, Debbie Wankier, Mark Wankier

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 20, 1999 MEETING MINUTES
The RAB members approved the January 20, 2000 meeting minutes.

MEETING TOPICS
The February 17, 2000 meeting topics were the Update - Draft Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment for Shoreline Sediments at NAB Coronado, Site 11 Remedial Action Plan/Record of Decision (RAP/ROD) and Focussed Feasibility Study, Site 9 Pore Water Sampling and Remedial Investigation Status, Site 9 Soil Vapor Extraction with Steam Injection and Free Product Recovery Update.

PRESENTATIONS
Update - Draft Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment for Shoreline Sediments at NAB Coronado- Mark Bonsavage, SWDIV, Remedial Project Manager (RPM)

Mr. Bonsavage presented an update on the Draft Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment for Shoreline Sediments at NAB Coronado. Mr. Bonsavage stated that approximately two months ago he gave a presentation concerning the ecological risk assessment at the Naval Amphibious Base (NAB). During that presentation he explained 1) What an ecological risk assessment was, and 2) What the following steps would be.

Since his last presentation chemicals or hits were located in the sediments at NAB. A Remedial Investigation (RI) was necessary to determine the extent of the contamination. The RI has three phases, (1) to determine the nature and extent of the contamination, (2) determine the human health risk, and (3) determine the ecological risk. Because of the nature of the site, it was decided that the ecological risk would be assessed more adamantly.

The ecological risk assessment process is interactive, it includes interested individuals, stakeholders, natural resource trustees, such as the Fish & Wildlife Service, NOAA, biologist, and other professionals. Three weeks ago a meeting was held with members of the RAB, toxicologists from Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), a representative from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Navy. The meeting provided the outline and layout for the draft of the ecological risk screening process. The study is being conducted at the Naval Amphibious Base on the Silver Strand south of Coronado, with the primary focus on Site 2/4 and Site 3.

Site 2/4 was used as a burn pit and sandblasting area. As part of the site's investigation, underwater

sediment samples were taken along the edge of the site. It was discovered that the metals found in the sampling were at elevated levels all around the site. Further investigation of Site 3 revealed a variety of different chemicals such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), semi-volatile compounds, PAHs, and pesticides at the site.

This study went through a series of tests to determine what the assessment end points were and what the measurement end points would be. An assessment end point is identifying what is valued-and identifying what needs protection. Part of the process is to identify the end points at the beginning of the study because it is not feasible to monitor and survey all the different species located in San Diego Bay-as part of a scientific study.

Originally, the group identified the benthic community. Benthic means bottom or bottom of the bay in this case. The benthic community in most cases, break up into vertebrates and invertebrates. Invertebrate are smaller animals that live in the mud. It was agreed to that this particular community is what supports everything further up the line. The benthic community or the benthic invertebrates are essential and of value, and is something that can be measured, which is very important.

At this point the screening risk assessment will be revised, and additional samples will be taken. Toxicity tests and chemistry concentrations directly related to the sediment will be done. If its decided to go further up the food chain, a bio-accumulation test can be used, trying to keep the test as close to the sediment as possible.

Site 11 Remedial Action Plan
/Record of Decision (RAP/ROD) and Focussed Feasibility Study-Bill Collins, SWDIV RPM
Mr. Collins presented on the Site 11, the RAP and ROD. This particular project is taking place at the Industrial Waste Treatment Plant (IWTP). The IWTP area has operated since the mid-70s treating waste. In 1988, the surface impoundments were shut down, and the Water Board directed the Navy to clean it up. The Navy is evaluating solutions for further cleanup. The Navy investigated the site and several years ago cleaned and removed the soil vapor problem from the volatile organic hydrocarbons that were in the soil.

In 1997, the Navy conducted a remedial investigation study, followed by an engineering feasibility study to look into the ways to clean up the site. Since 1997 the PWC has closed a number of non-surface impoundments. PWC decontaminated a structure, cleaned out contaminants that may have been there, removed the structure, and sampled the soil underneath it. In almost every case, the soil came up clean, but the groundwater remained contaminated.

The Navy is looking for ways to wrap the closure, cleanup and final disposition of those particular impoundments with the RAP, a State document. The ROD is a Record of Decision, which is a Federal document, and the goal is the same.

The original pits were the South Pond, the North Pond, the sludge basins and sludge beds. In addition the Navy is adding several other SWMUs in the area, anticipating that they will all close at the same time. The main issues are looking at the ARARs -applicable, relevant, and appropriate. And the laws and regulations that affect the cleanup of the site, standards that must be meet. When this was done under RCRA, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, it wasn't a requirement, but now using CERCLA, which is the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act it has created another path for cleanup, although the goal is the same.

The Navy is considering several options for cleanup of the soil such as, leaving the soil in place, treating it in place, or digging it up and hauling it away. The Navy is deciding what makes the most sense for treating the soil problem, what's the most economical, what is the best for the community, and what's best for reusing the site in the future. All of these issues must be considered.

When it comes to groundwater, a decision has to be made as what to do with it. It can't be dug up and placed somewhere. The Navy has to decide whether it can be monitored and also look at monitored natural

attenuation. PWC currently monitors 17 of these wells on a quarterly basis and then writes an annual report and submits it to DTSC and the Water Board. After the review, a RAP/ROD document will be prepared for Site 11. After the RAP/ROD document is signed, the process of completing a remedial design starts, firming up how the cleanup is going to happen. Once the design is approved, then the site is cleaned up.

Site 9 Pore Water Sampling and Remedial Investigation Status- Bill Collins, SWDIV RPM
Mr. Collins presented the Site 9 Pore Water Sampling and Remedial Investigation Status. Along North Island are five sets of monitoring wells. The Navy measures the contamination in the wells. An analysis is done to determine the severity and the effect on the bay. Several years ago it was determined that there was leakage into the bay. The Navy has been working with the State and the Water Board to understand why the leakage is happening, where it's happening, and how the problem can be resolved.
The Navy is measuring the contamination levels, to locate where the problem is. To measure the contamination levels divers use a special syringe made of approximately six-feet of stainless steel tubing, and approximately ¼ inch in diameter. They push it into the sediment at the one-foot and at five-foot levels.

SPAWAR, a research group, came up with what is called a benthic flux meter, which plants itself in the bottom of the bay and measures the flux of chemicals coming out of the sediment. For site 11, the Navy will be able to identify exactly how many gallons of water is discharged to the bay and from which site.
Site 9 Soil Vapor Extraction with Steam Injection and Free Product Recovery Update- Rich Moch, SWDIV RPM

Mr. Mach presented an update on the Site 9 pilot test. Mr. Mach stated that during the last month, additional pilot study wells, a new steam injection well, and a couple of new extraction wells were installed.

It's expected all of the pilot study work should be finished by March. The design of the full-scale system to be implemented in the April, getting the system in the ground by June or July; and starting the full-scale operation in about August-September.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS
COMMENTS
Mr. Mach announced that this would be his final meeting with the Coronado RAB. He has accepted a position as the BRAC environmental coordinator for Hunter's Point in San Francisco.

Mr. Collins handed out "Presenter Performance Rating Sheets" so that each of the RAB members could critique a presenter and offer feedback as to how well his/her topic is presented.

Mr. Collins reminded the group of the summary handout, which defines tall the projects currently being worked on in Coronado.

Mr. Collins stated there were four individuals that attended the tour of North Island, given by Mr. Locke and Mr. Collins.

Mr. Collins suggested that a RAB member work with Mary Masters, who is with the Technical Outreach Services for the Community (TOSC). Mr. Collins emphasized that she is a valuable asset to the RAB and they might lose her if her services are not utilized.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS
Site 10
CEQA

RAB UPCOMING MEETINGS, YEAR 2000
March 16th; April 20th; May 18th, June 15th; No meeting in July; August 17th; September 21st; October 19th; November 16th; and, No meeting in December.

MEETING ADJOURNED
Mr. Collins concluded the meeting, and the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.